

**EXCERPT FROM "THE WATCH" Navy V-12 Unit, Mississippi
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PERSONALITY SPOTLIGHT

The Personality Spotlight this week seeks out "hash marks" and casts its brilliant beam upon the fellow who has been in the Navy longer than anyone else on this station—J.P. Millman, Pharmacist Mate, First Class. Come January he will have spent six years in the Navy, and very interesting six years at that. But let us go back—and start from the beginning. He was born in Kewanee, Illinois and lived there until he entered the Navy in January 1938 right after graduating high school. Sent to Great Lakes, he spent four months in boot camp there, after which he was sent to the Hospital Corps School in San Diego, where he was stationed for the following four months. From there he was transferred to the Naval Hospital there in San Diego, where he gained valuable training and his certificate in operating room technique.

"Then the Navy decided I should get some salt water behind me, so they sent me to sea in May 1940," Millman described his first order to sea duty. He boarded the repair ship USS Melville and went to Pearl Harbor where he was assigned to the battleship Oklahoma. After several months of off-and-on maneuvers, the Oklahoma tied up at Pearl Harbor on Thursday, December 4, 1941. Millman was down on the third deck on that fateful morning of Dec. 7 when torpedoes hit the Oklahoma from all sides. Only a very few of the 200 men who were in that particular compartment escaped, Millman being one of those lucky to be small enough to squeeze out through a porthole. He was picked up and taken to shore, and fortunate to be unhurt, he reported immediately to the Naval Hospital, where for ten days with very little rest he treated casualties. On Dec. 18 he was assigned to an Army troopship carrying wounded back to the States and arrived in San Francisco on Christmas morning. Incidentally this same troopship was sunk in the African campaign. Boarding a Navy transport, he returned immediately to Pearl Harbor. Then he was assigned to the Rec. Station to help establish two large dispensaries there. In Oct. 1942 he was transferred back to the hospital, where he took over personnel and training courses. Incidentally, it was in June '42 that he was promoted to the rating of PhM 1/c. In June '43 he returned to the States and was sent to Gulfport, Mississippi, where he stayed for two months before being sent here (Clinton, Mississippi). Next to duty in the islands, Millman likes this best of all. "It's

nice and quiet for a change," he says.

Millman's hobby is the collection of classical music recordings. He owns a fine collection, which he started in the islands by organizing a sort of club of classical music lovers, for which he gained distinction. Any of you fellows might drop around to see him at sick bay if you like classical music and talk to him. Your attention is invited to an article concerning it in this issue of The Watch. Also, The Watch plans to print an article about music written by Millman every week.

If you don't know him, make it a point to drop over to sick bay some time and have a chat. He's a very likable fellow, the J.P. Millman.